

IDAHD POWER COMPANY P.O. BOX 70 BOLSE, IDAHO 83707

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February 8, 2001

VIA FAX TRANSMISSION

Mr. Alan W. Seder Director of Business Development ASTARIS, LLC 622 Emerson Road - 5th Floor St. Louis, Missouri 63141

Mr. Paul R. Yochum Plant Manager ASTARIS, LLC PO Box 4111 Pocatello, Idaho 83205

RE:

Discussion Offer Regarding Closure of

Astaris Pocatello Plant

Dear Mr. Seder and Mr. Yochum:

As you know, the Pacific Northwest and Idaho Power Company are projecting a shortage of electric power for the year 2001. Idaho Power Company is willing to initiate discussions with you concerning the reduction of electrical consumption at the Astaris Pocatello plant. If Astaris were willing to reduce its contract demand for the first block down to 10 MW, Idaho Power Company would be willing to consider waiving all charges concerning the second block and all charges for the first block except for the charges applicable to the 10 MW of electric service. In addition to the waiving of the contract charges except for 10 MW, Idaho Power Company would pay \$75 per MWh to Astaris for the 726,000 MWh of first block power that Idaho Power Company would no longer be required to provide to Astaris. This would result in a payment to Astaris of \$6,050,000 per month for the period from April 1 through December 31.

Assuming that Idaho Power Company and Astaris were to agree to this arrangement, Idaho Public Utilities Commission approval would also be required, including authorization for the recovery of \$80,500,000 through the power cost adjustment provision. The cost to customers other than Astaris includes both the payments to Astaris and the lost revenues from Astaris.

Exhibit No. 201 Case No. IPC-E-01-43 A. SEDER, ASTARIS Page 1 of 2 Astaris Letter Page -2-

I would appreciate a prompt response from you concerning whether this proposal is of interest to you.

Cordially

John R. Gale

JRG:ma

c:

Ken Tandy Rich Riazzi Larry Ripley

Larry Ripley Celeste Schwendiman